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#### RULE OR RUIN.

As sensible and comprehensive a statement of the present status of the statehood question, as we have seen, appeared last evening in the *Santa Fe New Mexican*. The *Santa Fe* paper, however, maintains that despite the passage of the Flood resolution we come in automatically in 1912. In that respect, we must admit that a large question is open, and which will depend upon whether the Flood resolution is held to be a disapproval of our constitution or not.

The report from the House committee, at the time the Flood resolution was launched in congress declared that "the intent of this resolution is to disapprove of both the constitutions of New Mexico and Arizona." That language is unfortunately rather plain, but it may be held that the Flood resolution does not disapprove, in which case, this territory is eventually assured of statehood since it is highly improbable that a resolution specifically disapproving our constitution could be put through congress under present conditions.

#### SENATOR FRYE.

A few years ago, the death of Senator Frye would have created much more talk and aroused greater sorrow throughout the country than it does at this time. This is due to lack of respect to the late senator but is simply because he was not well known to the public during the latter part of his life, as he formerly was.

The indications are that the Democrats in both house and senate are going to be in the same fix as the child that played with fire, before they get through with tariff revision.

It made fine campaign talk indeed, but when it came to actually doing the work of revision—well it makes considerable difference where you are.

But to return to the present, the *New Mexican* truthfully says:

"What will the president do with the Flood resolution?" is the question on many persons' tongues today. "What would you do?" If you were in his place, is the only logical answer that can be given at this writing.

Those who wish statehood for New Mexico beyond everything else, those who give consideration only to the immediate need and desire of this commonwealth, find the answer easy. They say: "Statehood under any and every condition that congress has seen fit to impose. The condition that congress has imposed while unjust, is neither onerous nor material. New Mexico's advice to the president therefore is: 'Sign the Flood resolution and let us in!'"

But outside of New Mexico, there is another powerful sentiment. Men who are thoughtful, who are as patriotic as the men who style themselves "Progressives," feel that the nation has reached a crisis, a point where the Republican institutions of the nation must stand even a protracted test than during the Civil war. They cry for a man with a backbone, who, no matter what the effect on his own personal fortunes, will have the courage to stand out against the new tendency. They believe that passing the Flood resolution up to Taft will give him the opportunity to issue a clarion call to battle against the new democracy that is overwhelming the nation. They argue that the president may amply warrant that he would veto the Flood resolution, that it is now up to him to make good his threat and that there are at least 34 senators left in the upper house who will stand by him to resist any effort to pass the resolution over his veto and that is all that is needed, or rather, it will take 61 senators to pass the resolution over the executive veto or 15 more than voted against the Salmon resolution last evening. They maintain that it is not the fate of New Mexico and Arizona that is at stake but the ultimate fate of the nation and that New Mexico can afford to wait the nine months that will admit it automatically.

It is a question not so easily decided. The motive of the Democrats and insurgents in insisting upon the Flood resolution was to "put the president in the hole" as it is competing him to decide on a vital political issue, could be interpreted as that effect.

That Democratic committee from New Mexico which stood by the result no noisy and asserted strenuously that "Taft wouldn't dare to use the veto on the Flood resolution" has every reason to feel proud of itself. It has accomplished the undreamed purpose which it sought.

The president hasn't said he would veto the Flood resolution, hopefully remarks the *Morning Oregonian*. Probably its editorial writer will sooner or later get around to reading that paper's own news columns prior to quoting the president.

While it is true that if he vetoes the Flood resolution, the president will be ignoring a fairly large sized vote in congress, yet no doubt if anything can change him at the last minute, it will be a "blood" of telegram for his secretary to read.

**A FIGHT COMING.**

It was fine sport a few weeks ago, for the Democrats to amend the wool tariff schedule. They went after Schedule "K" like ducks to water and had huge fun cutting down the duties on wool to a point where the industry in this country would have

were wiped out. Now however, the wool bill is to be in conference with Mr. La Follette an insurgent of the insurgents and Mr. Underwood, Democratic boss of the house, hopelessly deadlocked.

But in the senate, there is another bill for a revision of the cotton schedule. It affects the great south, where cotton and Democrats grow with similar immunity.

But the cotton bill is not the same huge joke as the wool bill. It is the concern of the Democrats. They were willing enough to ruin the wool growers but how about those semi-cotton growers in the sunny southwest?

So it appears that the revision of the tariff gets back to a local issue once more and there will be some fine feather pulling before anything is done with the wool bill or the cotton bill.

Then there is also Mr. Underwood's extensive interests in iron and steel. Mr. Underwood announces that he wants to see a few changes made in tariff schedules on those articles, now that the question is up. If he could have his amendments adopted, Mr. Underwood and some of his associates, would be hard hit financially.

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**MEANNESS, CULTIVATED AND ACQUIRED.**

People are naturally mean. They are always showing it one way or another. If you like a ride on the street cars you are glad to ride free. You are good if the conductor overcharges to collect your fare. You are also willing to have your friends pay. You begin to realize when the majority of such things is made. You still object and there is a contest to see who can be the quickest in not getting out the fare. Two ladies started to ride in old Town on a street car yesterday. Each of them had a purse and all the other train a woman carries. When the time came to pay the conductor, it developed that each had expected the other to take the fare. They were required to get off the car.



PEOPLE DO READ SIGNS.

People do read signs. They not only read them but they believe them and in Latin. Every little sign, this every little movement, has a meaning all its own. There are a thousand little signs floating around Astoria at the present time. All these signs advertise "The Man From Home." The signs are in the show windows and in many other places. There is one in a window of the Leonard-Lindemann company. Yesterday a man went into the Leonard-Lindemann store and asked to hear "The Man From Home" on the phonograph. The day before a lady asked one of the girls the price of the new song, "The Man From Home." The girl was so embarrassed that he told the lady that the manager of trade sales had not yet been received, only professional copies being on sale.

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#### ALAS FOR THE POETS THOUGHTS.

The poet and is filled with thoughts as small. But shuttled leaves no room to read such things.

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#### DEMOCRATS BREAK UP IN NEAR RIOT.

Meeting in Ashbury Park to Consider Insult to Governor Wilson Results in Scene of Wildest Confusion.

The formal opening of the centennial was preceded by a reception to distinguished visitors, and at noon an informal luncheon in honor of Governor West and other notables was given under a floral canopy on the roof of the principal hotel of the city.

The swinging open of the gates of a replica of old Fort Astoria by Governor West was the signal to the waiting throng that the centennial was inaugurated. This event was preceded in a civic and military parade which, headed from Government square, followed the land westward north of the 44th parallel, north latitude, and east to the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

In after years, during the Oregon controversies, which give rise to the slogan "Fifty-four Forty or Fight," though the existence of both rivers had been ascertained, the United States, because they were in Astoria, assumed identical mainland title to the Fraser river country or the ground that Astor's colonization scheme included as part of the proposed Columbia river watershed.

Astor was anxious in the selection of his associates in the venture, for the four partners who headed the expedition were subjects of Great Britain. Using this as an excuse, they sold out the post at Fort Astoria in 1812 to representatives of the North-West company, who brought the news of the outbreak of war between the United States and Great Britain in 1812.

Under the name Fort George, the post established daily at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Friday at 2:30 p.m. an object lesson for children will be given. All children and young people especially are invited to this service.

Wm. Downing, evangelist; J. C. Smith, music director.

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